

NOAA Teacher at Sea Charles "Chuck" Gregory Onboard NOAA Ship THOMAS JEFFERSON August 12 – 24, 2007

NOAA Teacher at Sea: Charles "Chuck" Gregory

NOAA Ship: THOMAS JEFFERSON

Mission: Hydrographic Surveys of New York Harbor

August 15, 2007 - Day 4 - 1000h

"Delay is preferable to error." ~Thomas Jefferson

Here's the Plan of the Day (POD):

Sunrise = 0606h Sunset = 1955h

0000h Ship at Sandy Hook, NJ anchorage

0745h Launch safety brief (Survey)

0800h Deploy Launches (3101 & 3102)

1745h Retrieve launches

Tides for Sandy Hook

Low @ 0416h (-0.1 ft.) & 1624h (0.4 ft.); High @ 1020h (5.0 ft.) & 2225h (5.2 ft.)

Currents in Sandy Hook Channel

Ebb: 0120h (1.7 kts.), 1339h (1.6 kts.); Flood: 0717h (2.0 kts.) & 1930h (2.0 kts.)

Weather from Sandy Hook to Fire Island

AM: SW winds 10 kts., seas 2-4 ft.; PM: SW winds 10-15 kts., seas 2-4 ft.

My goal today is to improve my computer skills on the ship. After an oatmeal breakfast I met with Eric, the ship's Electronics Technician. Eric was able to check out my laptop, get me a cable for the dial-up connection, and help me access NOAA charts for my Power Point Presentation. He was a huge help!

I am now able to catch up on my e-mails, surf the net, and get in touch with Teacher At Sea Coordinator, Elizabeth McMahon.

Before I send out my log for day's 1 & 2, I was asked to have Commander Schattgen (or his designee) review my material. He was quick to read my e-mail log and add a few edits. Now it's time so send it to Liz in Silver Spring.

The CO also added a few ideas for me to consider – being the helmsman when the 'TJ' heads out to sea for house keeping, observing the data acquisition and reporting process, and checking out a multibeam calibration test or patch test. Since this is a once in a lifetime opportunity for my I ensured him I was open to anything...once!

The rest of my day was spent getting all caught up with my computer work, and calling Roxann. I saw tomorrow's POD and learned I will be once again heading out on Launch 3102 for 10 hours. The weather looks OK in the AM, but the wind and thunderstorms will pick up in the afternoon. Now where did I put those Dramamine? I was in bed finishing up Cannery Row by 2100h.